

Research Resources

A monthly newsletter of the
AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health
October 2011

Dear Colleagues,

Thirty years ago, I was honored to be asked to serve as the first editor of the Foundation's scientific journal, known initially as *The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research*, or *OTJR*. It was an exciting prospect, and I marveled then, as I do now, at the foresight of the Foundation's leadership at that time. Wilma West, Lela Llorens, Nedra Gillette, and others understood clearly that research was fundamental to the credibility and sustainability of the profession.

So, in this month's issue, we focus on the journal now called *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*. Mary Binderman and the staff of the Wilma L West Library have assembled some articles viewed as emblematic of the issues published under seven distinguished editors during its history. And what better time than this to announce the journal's new editor? Effective in January 2012, Dr. Kathleen Matuska of St. Catherine's University will serve as the journal's eighth editor. Dr. Matuska brings significant editing experience to the task, along with credibility as a clinical scientist herself. She has some big shoes to fill as she builds on the great work of our outgoing editor, Dr. Jane Case-Smith.

Cordially,



Charles Christiansen
Executive Director

P.S. Don't forget to register for our upcoming [ACTOR conference](#) on intervention research.

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Wilma L. West Library Resource Notes

The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research: a look back

Wilma West wrote the first announcement of the coming of a journal dedicated to research in occupational therapy in the December 1980 issue of *Occupational Therapy Newspaper*, published by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). The next month, she explained on the Foundation's page in the *American Journal of Occupational Therapy (AJOT)* that the Board of the American Occupational Therapy Foundation decided to publish *The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research (OTJR)* in response to information learned through surveys of the profession conducted by AOTA, AOTF, and the Research Advisory Committee (West, WL, 1981). In the April 1981 charter

issue, Miss West expounded in more detail on the rationales for having a journal dedicated to research in occupational therapy and described the three phases of research: generation, dissemination, and utilization.

In her guest editorial, Dr. Lela Llorens wrote

"The need for research in occupational therapy is based upon the need to know how occupation impacts the lives of clients as a result of treatment for restoration of function, habilitation or rehabilitation. The need for research in occupational therapy encompasses the need to discover and test the theories upon which professional practice is based," (Llorens, LA, 1981, p. 3)."

OTJR has benefited from the guidance and skills of its superb editors.

Charles H Christiansen, EdD, OTR, FAOTA (1981 - 1986)

Kenneth J Ottenbacher, PhD, OTR, FAOTA (1987 - Mar/Apr 1991)

Margaret Short-DeGraff, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA (Jul/Aug 1991 - Spring 1997)

Bette R Bonder, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA (Summer 1997 - Winter 2001)

M Carolyn Baum, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA (Spring 2001 - Spring 2004)

Helene J Polatajko, PhD, OT Reg. (Ont.), OT(C), FCAOT - (Summer 2004 - Winter 2008)

Jane Case-Smith, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA (Spring 2008 - Winter 2012)

Kathleen Matuska, PhD, OTR/L (Spring 2012 -)

In late October 2000, the AOTF Board of Directors adopted new Vision and Mission statements that expressed the Foundation's ". . . commitment to broaden understanding of the relationship between occupation and health [and included] greater societal focus relative to the need of all persons to be able to participate fully," (2001, p.693). In March, 2001, the AOTF Board created an Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health within the organizational structure of the Foundation. To further embrace the Institute's focus and purposes, the AOTF Board voted to change the name of its research journal from *The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research* to *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health* (2001; Baum, C, 2001 and 2002). Look back at the quote from Dr. Llorens. Does it seem familiar?

This was a brief history of the Foundation's research journal. For more information, see the editorials from past editors in the reference list below to learn more about the journal's growth and development, as well as about Issues related to research in occupational therapy. A reoccurring theme is movement back and forth of theory to practice and practice to theory.

_____. (2001). [The Foundation: Introducing the Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 55, 693-694.

Baum, C. (2001). Editorial: A forum for occupation, participation and health. *The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research*, 21, 71-72.

Baum, C. (2002). Editorial. [OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health](#), 22, 3.

Bonder, BR. (2001). Editorial: Coming of age in challenging times. *The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research*, 21, 3-11.

Case-Smith, J. (2009). [Editorial: Translating research findings to clinical practice](#). *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, 29, 98.

Case-Smith, J. (2008). Editorial: [Building the evidence for occupational therapy interventions](#). *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, 28, 98-99.

Christiansen, CH. (1986). Research as reclamation. *The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research*, 6, 322-327.

Llorens, LA. (1981). Guest editorial: a journal of research in occupational therapy: the need, the response. *The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research*, 2, 3-6.

Ottenbacher, KJ. (1987). A scholarly rite of passage. *The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research*, 7, 3-6.

Ottenbacher, KJ & Christiansen, CH. (2005). [Editorial: Celebrating progress and creating the future: reflections at the silver anniversary](#). *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, 25, 2-3.

Polatajko, HJ. (2005). [Translational research: calling all clinicians](#). *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, 25, 131-132.

Polatajko, HJ. (2004). [Editorial: OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health: a forum for dual citizenship](#). *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, 24, 46-47.

Short-DeGraff, M. (1997). Editorial: times of change in science, health care, and research. *The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research*, 17, 75-80.

West, WL. (1981). Commentary: a journal of research in occupational therapy: the response, the responsibility. *The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research*, 1, 7-12.

West, WL, (1981). [The Foundation--The Need, The Response: Occupational Therapy Journal of Research](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 35, 44-45.

West, WL. (1980 Dec). Foundation to publish OT journal of research. *Occupational Therapy Newspaper*, 34. 1.

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OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health

[Support the Wilma L. West Library Digitization Initiative](#)

The Wilma L. West Library is embarking on [an exciting initiative to digitize](#) the original *Archives of Occupational Therapy*. These early journals (1922-1924) are the first writings of occupational therapy scientists and practitioners. Once digitized, the journals will be available for free to the public! Please support this initiative which AOTF hopes to be the first of many such projects by the Wilma L. West Library.



Eleanor Clarke Slagle - an early pioneer of occupational therapy

[AOTA-AOTF Joint Conference](#)

[The AOTA-AOTF Accelerating Clinical Trials and Outcomes Research \(ACTOR\) Conference \(December 1-2, 2011, Arlington, Virginia\)](#)

Early to mid-career scientists from rehabilitation disciplines are invited

Online Advanced Release

OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health, published quarterly by the American Occupational Therapy Foundation, Inc., offers original research articles of professional interest to the practicing occupational therapist with a focus on occupation and fostering interdisciplinary research.

Visit: [OTJR Online](#).

Articles appearing in this "Online Advanced Release" section have been peer-reviewed and accepted for publication in the *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health* and posted online before print publication

[Dealing With Real-Life Challenges: Outcome of a Home-Based Occupational Therapy Intervention for People With Severe Psychiatric Disability](#) Maria Lindström; Gun-Marie Hariz; Birgitta Bernspång

[Bathing Area Safety and Lower Extremity Function in Community-Dwelling Older Adults](#) Kathryn E. Korp; Jessica M. Taylor; David L. Nelson

[Engaged Moments: Mediated Action and Children With Autism in the Classroom Setting](#) Nancy Bagatell, PhD, OTR/L

[Occupational Performance Problems in 85-Year-Old Women and Men in](#)

to attend this unique conference focusing on clinical research. The conference is open to all rehabilitation disciplines, occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech therapy. Space is limited.

Conference Announcements

[9th CTEC Congress of Occupational Therapy \(Stockholm, Sweden, May 24-27, 2012\)](#)

The theme for this congress is Occupation Diversity for the Future. More than 1,000 occupational therapists will meet for an international discussion on a wide spectrum of occupational therapy topics. Final closing date for the Call for Papers is **October 5, 2011**.

[Sensory Processing Disorder \(SPD\) Foundation's 13th International Institute and Symposium \(Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, October 20-22, 2011\)](#)

Professional Institute: Designing Spaces to Maximize Therapeutic Benefit

Parent Workshop: Introduction to SPD

Symposium: Advanced Research and Innovative Practice:

Understanding the Role of Sensation in Daily Life

National and local leaders in SPD research and intervention will share their findings and innovative strategies.

[Annual Conference of the Occupational Therapy Association of California \(Sacramento, California October 14-16, 2011\)](#)

Keynote Address: Kathleen Barker Schwartz, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA - 2009 Eleanor Clarke Slagle Lecturer.

[2011 Working 2 Walk Science and Advocacy Symposium \(Rockville, Maryland, October 16-18, 2011\)](#)

Attendees to this event, hosted by the United 2 Fight Paralysis Organization, will learn about the latest news in spinal cord research, current available modalities that help maintain a healthy lifestyle and maximize function following spinal cord injury, and what can be done to accelerate progress toward cures.

[Ninth World Congress on Brain Injury \(Edinburgh, Scotland, March 21-25, 2012\)](#)

State of the art research will be presented dealing with information spanning from basic science to clinical (coma to community) aspects of brain injury. Abstract submission deadline: **October 14, 2011**.

Online Resources

[Call for Comment on draft ACOTE Standards invited \(Deadline -- October 21, 2011\)](#)

The Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) is inviting comment regarding the second draft of the ACOTE *Accreditation Standards for a Doctoral-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist, Accreditation Standards for a Master's-Degree-Level Educational Program for the*

[Sweden](#) Anette Källdalen; Jan Marcusson; Katarina Nägga; Ewa Wressle

[Reliability and Validity of the Valued Activity Inventory for Adults With Cancer](#) Kathleen Doyle Lyons; Mark T. Hegel; Jay G. Hull; Zhongze Li; Stefan Balan; Stephen Bartels

[Description and Development of the Life Balance Inventory](#) Kathleen Matuska

[Validity Evidence of a Model and Measure of Life Balance](#) Kathleen Matuska

Grant Opportunities

[Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute \(PCORI\)](#)

For this program, PCORI is interested in the development of research methods, patient-oriented outcomes instruments, patient-provider communication and other decision-making strategies, building collaborative research teams with stakeholders, translating research findings into clinical practice, stakeholder engagement, and research agenda setting strategies that can be used in future comparative effectiveness research.

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Occupational Therapist, and Accreditation Standards for an Associate-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapy Assistant. Feedback on the draft Standards will determine whether the revised Standards are adopted by ACOTE in December 2011 or whether a third draft will be developed and a call for comment repeated. If adopted at the December 2011 meeting, the Standards would become effective July 1, 2013. The draft Standards are available on the [AOTA web page](#). To submit comment, please use this [link](#). Comments may also be sent to the [Accreditation Department](#), AOTA, PO Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220. Hard copies of the survey are available upon request from the [AOTA Accreditation Department](#).

[A Conversation with Kathleen Martinez, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Disability Employment Policy - October 12, 2011, 12-1 pm Eastern Time](#)

Cornell University's Industrial and Labor Relations (ILR) School will be holding a free webcast to cover disability employment topics, including why employing people with disabilities is important to U.S. business and the economy, the president's initiative to increase employment of people with disabilities in the federal sector, and what organizations can do to support and hire people with disabilities.

AOTF Institute Image of the Month

From the [Archives of the AOTA](#), housed in the AOTF Wilma L. West Library.



Patients dressed for a Halloween ball, 1937, NY Tuberculosis Hospital.

The AOTF Institute makes this image, as well as the [Guide to the Archives of the AOTA](#), available publicly as part of its mission to honor the past and be the best possible steward of the unique body of knowledge that is occupational therapy. To this end, the AOTF Institute warmly welcomes individuals from within and beyond occupational therapy to explore the guide and use the

archives for purposes of research, education, and leadership.

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For more information about the American Occupational Therapy Foundation and its Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health see our web site: www.aotf.org.

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